紫色の潔白

Purple Innocence

DO NOT REDISTRIBUTE OUTSIDE IRC WITHOUT PERMISSION.

I'LL BE WATCHING...

REMEMBER TO SUPPORT THE MANGAKA!!

X-Kai-™

1

ASAMI TOKJOH

TOKYOPOP®

Volume 1

by

Asami Tohjoh

TOKYOPOP

HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO

X -kai- Vol. 1

Created by Asami Tohjoh

Translation - Yuko Fukami
English Adaptation - Anina Bennet
Copy Editor - Peter Ahlstrom
Retouch and Lettering - Lucas Rivera
Production Artist - Jennifer Carbajal
Cover Design - Jorge Negrete

Editor - Rob Tokar
Digital Imaging Manager - Chris Buford
Production Manager - Jennifer Miller
Managing Editor - Lindsey Johnston
VP of Production - Ron Klamert
Publisher and E I C - Mike Kiley
President and C O O - John Parker
C E.O and Chief Creative Officer - Stuart Levy

A TOKYOPOP Manga

TOKYOPOP Inc.
5900 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 2000
Los Angeles, CA 90036

E-mail: Info@TOKYOPOP.com
Come visit us online at www.TOKYOPOP.com

© 1998 Asami Tohjoh. All Rights Reserved. First published in Japan by HOME-SHA INC., Tokyo, Japan

English text copyright © 2006 TOKYOPOP Inc.

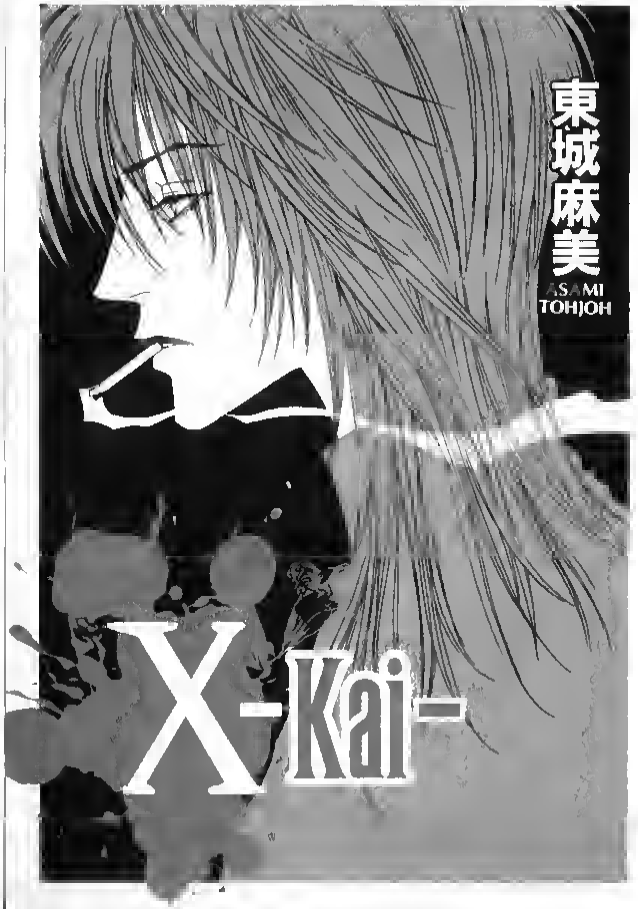
All rights reserved. No portion of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means without written permission from the copyright holders. This manga is a work of fiction. Any resemblance to actual events or locales or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental

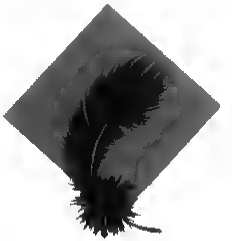
ISBN: 1-59816-373-6

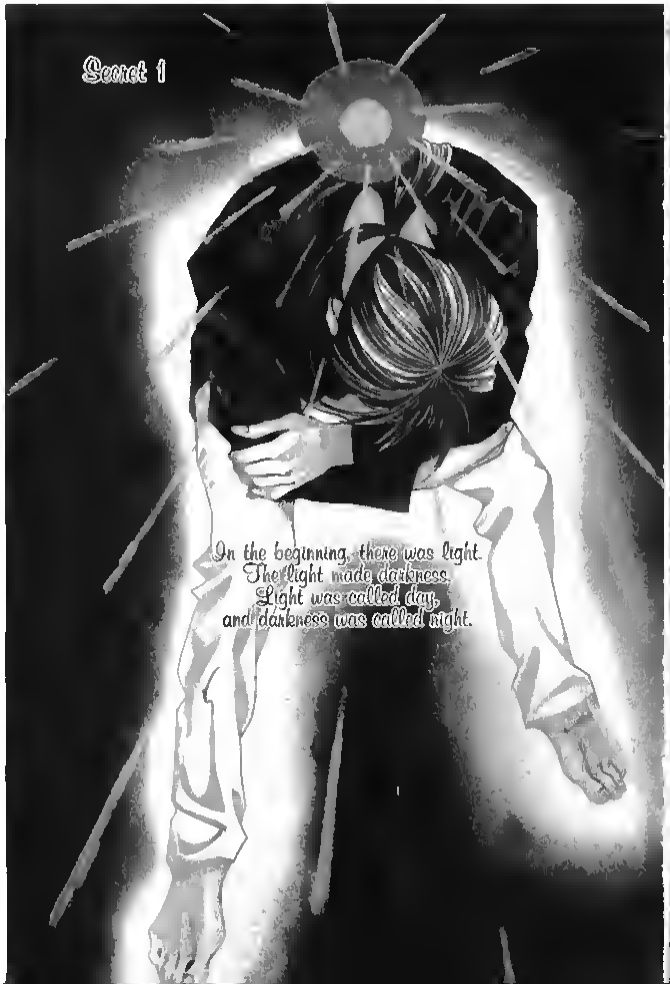
First TOKYOPOP printing: April 2006

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Printed in the USA

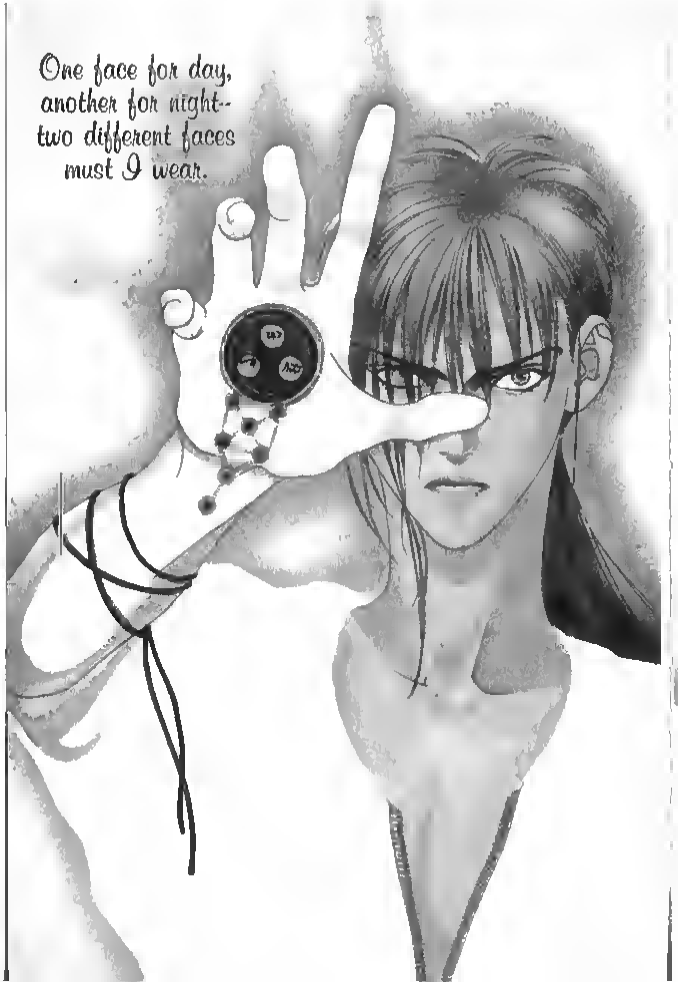

東城麻美
ASAMI
TOHJOH
X-Kai-





CONTENTS

Secret 1.....07
Secret 2.....51
Secret 3.....91
Postscript...195


One face for day,
another for night--
two different faces
must I wear.

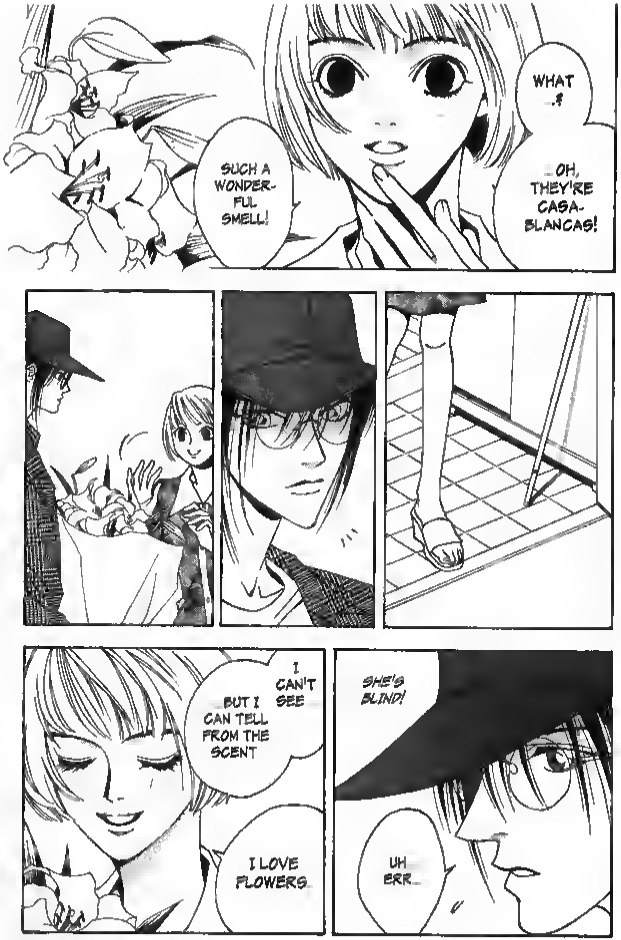
Secret 1

ARE YOU MAKING FUN OF ME?
I THOUGHT THIS PLACE WAS ABANDONED
YAGAMI

WHO'S THE CLIENT?
TO ONE ERIKO NAGASAKI?
WOULD YOU DELIVER SOME CASABLANCA LILIES TO THIS ADDRESS
I'M HERE TO BUY FLOWERS

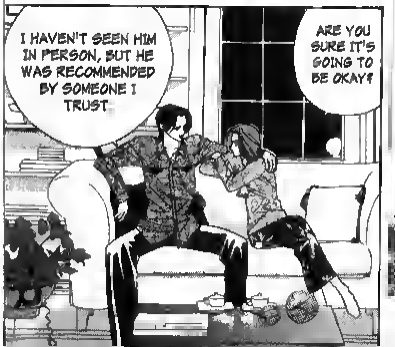
IS THIS A SHOP?

YES?
DING, DONG
I'M FROM GARDEN SHOP YAGAMI.
YOU'RE NAGASAKI-SAN?
I HAVE SOME FLOWERS FOR YOU.


WHAT -?
OH, THEY'RE CASA-BLANCAS!
SUCH A WONDER-FUL SMELL!
I CAN'T SEE
BUT I CAN TELL FROM THE SCENT
I LOVE FLOWERS
SHE'S BLIND!
UH ERR...

KANAMORI-SAN IS TRULY KIND..
...TO MARRY A BLIND GIRL LIKE ME

HEY...


I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM IN PERSON, BUT HE WAS RECOMMENDED BY SOMEONE I TRUST...
ARE YOU SURE IT'S GOING TO BE OKAY?

LILIES SIGNIFY PURITY, DON'T THEY?
ARE THEY FROM KANAMORI-SAN?
YES, FROM KAZUSHI KANAMORI-SAMA.

YES
AND SOME-THING ELSE...

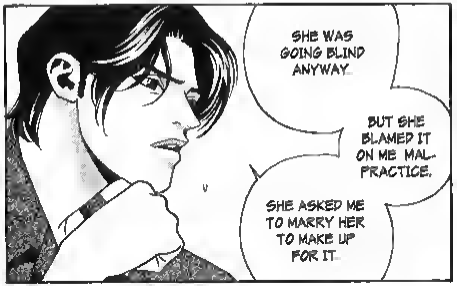
GETTING MARRIED...
...I SEE
CONGRAT-ULATIONS

I'M GOING TO BE MARRIED SOON
MY BOUQUET WILL BE MADE OF CASABLANCAS PURITY...
...AREN'T THEY PERFECT FOR BRIDES?

ARE YOU CRAZY?!
CALM DOWN FOR A MINUTE!
YOU AND I ARE ENGAGED!
DON'T YOU WANT TO BE THE NEXT HEAD OF THE HOSPITAL?
THAT'S WHY...
..I HIRED HIM
?!
CASABLANCA LILIES ARE FOR THE DEAD
I HAD CASA-BLANCAS ...
WHAT?
...CASA-BLANCA LILIES SENT TO THAT WOMAN.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YOU LIE.
I DIDN'T SLEEP WITH HER
IF DAD FINDS OUT, YOU'LL BE FIRED
HOW DO YOU PLAN TO KEEP HER QUIET?
THAT WOMAN, THE ONE YOU MIS-DIAGNOSED WHO WENT BLIND--
--ERIKO, THAT WAS HER NAME.
DID YOU SLEEP WITH HER?
WHAT? YOU PROMISED TO MARRY HER?!

The Japanese word for death is "shinigami," which rhymes with "Yagami."

I UNDERSTAND.
PLEASE GIVE HER DEATH...
...WITH NO SUFFERING.
THERE IS A PLANT...
...THAT CAUSES HEART FAILURE BUT LEAVES NO TRACE.
IF SHE DOESN'T HAVE LONG TO GO ANYWAY...
SHE WILL NOT SUFFER.


SHE WAS GOING BLIND ANYWAY.
BUT SHE BLAMED IT ON ME. MALPRACTICE.
SHE ASKED ME TO MARRY HER TO MAKE UP FOR IT.

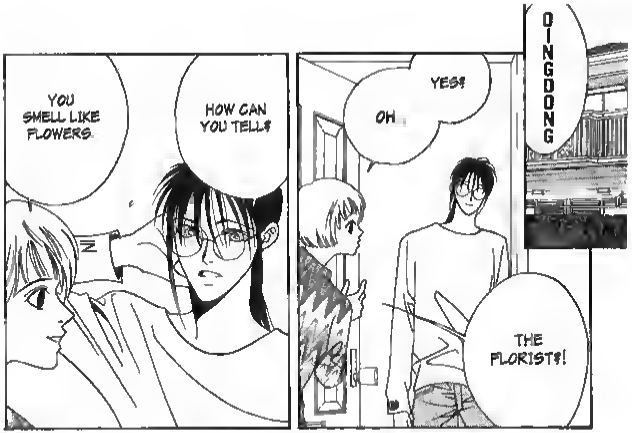
SHE'D BEEN BLACKMAILING ME.

MY FIANCÉE UNDERSTANDS, TOO
SHE DOESN'T HAVE LONG TO LIVE
IF HER DREAM IS TO MARRY A PRIVILEGED MAN LIKE ME, I WANTED TO GRANT HER WISH AS HER DOCTOR, EVEN IF IT'S A PACK OF LIES

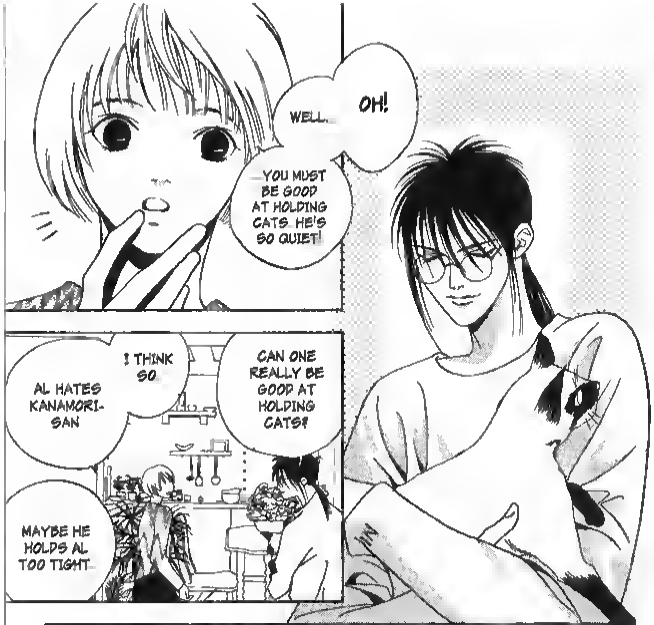
...DON'T YOU THINK THAT WOULD BE THE ULTIMATE HAPPINESS FOR HER?
IF SHE COULD DIE AS IF SHE IS FALLING ASLEEP
...WITH THE HOPE OF MARRYING ME.

RING RING
SUGARU-SAN?
KAITO, IS IT YOU?
HELLO?
HOW DO YOU LIKE YOUR NEW CLIENT? HE'S A DOCTOR, SO HE PAYS WELL, RIGHT?
YOU MUST BE HAPPY.
Kihamada Clinic
WHAT IS IT?
ABOUT THAT...
...THERE'S SOMETHING I'D LIKE YOU TO LOOK INTO...

WH-WHO ARE YOU?
I'M SUBBING FOR THE REGULAR NURSE
I'M SO HAPPY. I'VE ALWAYS HAD A HUGE CRUSH ON YOU!
DR KANA-MORI!
UGH!
PSSHT
YOU SHOULDN'T, DOCTOR! ♡
OH.
IS THAT SO?
LET'S SEE...
THUD
WELL, I DO HAVE...
...A LITTLE FREE TIME RIGHT NOW

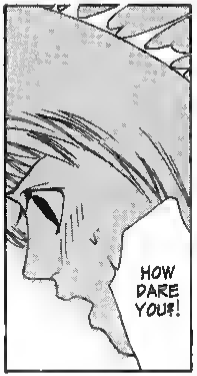

DING DONG
YES?
OH
THE FLORIST?!
YOU SMELL LIKE FLOWERS.
HOW CAN YOU TELL?

AL
STOP IT, AL!
HISSSSS
WHAT'S YOUR CAT'S NAME?
HOW ARE THE CASA-BLANCAS?
AS PART OF MY SERVICE, I REARRANGE THEM FOR CUSTOMERS WHO LIVE NEARBY.
THAT'S KIND OF YOU
PLEASE COME IN
I'M SORRY, BUT HE HATES TO BE HELD
CAN I HOLD HIM?


OH!
WELL...
YOU MUST BE GOOD AT HOLDING CATS. HE'S SO QUIET!
CAN ONE REALLY BE GOOD AT HOLDING CATS?
I THINK SO
AL HATES KANAMORI-SAN
MAYBE HE HOLDS AL TOO TIGHT

HUH?
KANAMORI-SAN MAY NOT BE
QUITE AS NICE AS YOU THINK.
OR PERHAPS
SEES HIS TRUE SELF.
AL SEES THROUGH HIM

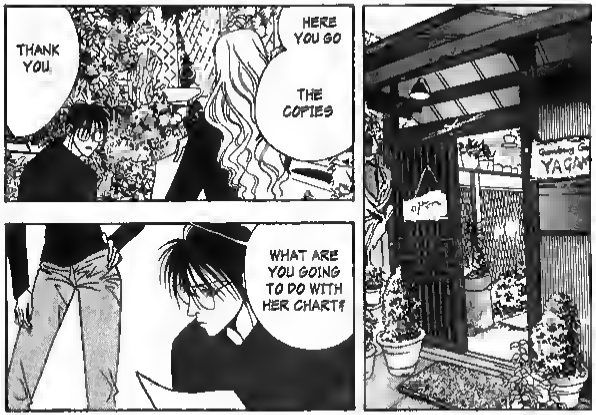
AND YOU, GET OUT!
COME ON, AL!
.....

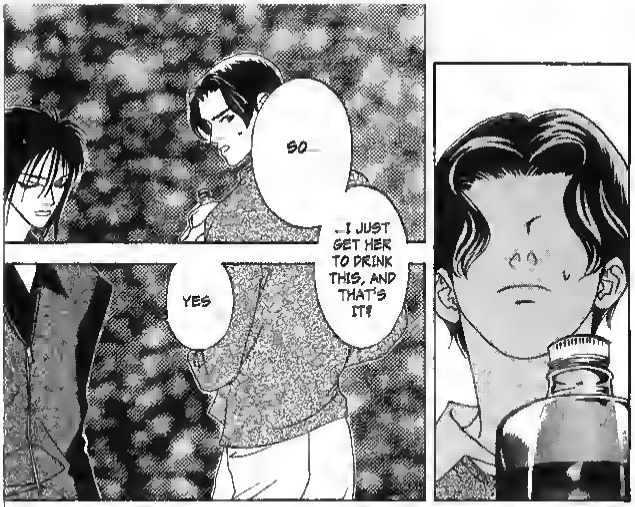

HOW DARE YOU!

HE LEAVES YOU TO FEND FOR YOURSELF.
BUT HE'S NOT HERE.
BUT HE IS!
HE SENT ME THE CASA-BLANCAS

NOT A THING!
YOU DON'T KNOW A THING ABOUT KANAMORI-SAN!

YOU COULDN'T POSSIBLY UNDERSTAND!
BECAUSE OF HIM, I HAD HOPE EVEN AFTER I LOST MY SIGHT
I CAN LIVE, BECAUSE OF HIM.


THANK YOU.
HERE YOU GO
THE COPIES
YAGAMI
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH HER CHART?
YOU'RE GOING TO KILL HER ANYWAY, AREN'T YOU?
KAITO?


SO—
...I JUST GET HER TO DRINK THIS, AND THAT'S IT?
YES

HEH...
YES. IT WILL LOOK LIKE A NATURAL DEATH--NO ONE WILL DOUBT IT
ARE YOU SURE IT WON'T LEAVE A TRACE?
HA HA HA...

I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM FOR TEN DAYS
I GUESS THIS IS THE END
TEN DAYS..
DING DONG
KANA-MORI-SAN!!
RIGHT, AL?
BUT KANAMORI-SAN IS BUSY! HE CAN'T HELP IT..

I'M SORRY. I'VE BEEN SO BUSY...
I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE!
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
ALL THAT MATTERS IS THAT YOU'RE HERE.
UH-HUH
OH!
THAT'S WHY WE NEED TO DISPOSE OF THE EVIDENCE
TEE HEE
WHAT?! I THOUGHT YOU WEREN'T SUPPOSED TO ACCEPT SUCH GIFTS!
I BROUGHT THIS TO MAKE IT UP TO YOU
ONE OF MY PATIENTS GAVE ME A NICE BOTTLE OF WINE

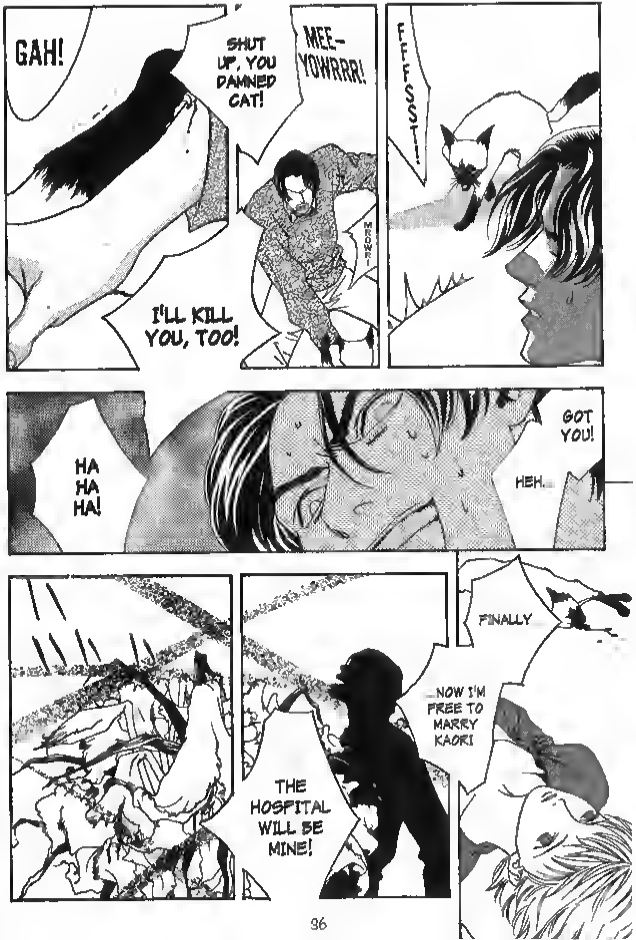
HERE.
THANK YOU.
YES?
KANA-MORI-SAN.
I'M...
. I'M VERY HAPPY.
I'M GLAD TO BE ALIVE.

IT SOUNDS LOVELY.
SPLISHH
.....
IT MAKES A BEAUTIFUL SOUND.
WHAT?

WHAT'S WRONG?
HEH...
HA HA...
I'VE DONE IT.
IT'S DONE!
HAH!

I AM, TOO
THUD

THERE ARE NO SUSPICIONS ABOUT ERIKO'S DEATH.
IT'S BEEN TWO MONTHS, WITH NO MENTION OF IT IN THE PAPER.
IT'S TIME, SIR.
PLEASE COME THIS WAY.


GAH!
SHUT UP, YOU DAMNED CAT!
MEE-YOWRR!
MROWF!
I'LL KILL YOU, TOO!
EEEEEEEEE!
HA HA HA!
GOT YOU!
HEH...
FINALLY
...NOW I'M FREE TO MARRY KAORI
THE HOSPITAL WILL BE MINE!

SO, WHO ARE YOU GOING TO THROW IT TO?
COINCI-DENCE
NO.
THE ONES I ORDERED DIDN'T COME IN, SO THEY GAVE ME THESE. AREN'T THEY NICE?
IS SOME-THING WRONG?
LET'S SEE...
HOW ABOUT...

HE'LL BE IN CHARGE OF THE HOSPITAL SOON. HE'S DONE WELL FOR HIMSELF!
I ENVY HIM
KAORI.
...YOUR BOUQUET.

YA AA A A!!
ERRRRR...

I MADE SURE SHE WAS DEAD!!
I OUGHT TO KNOW...
I MADE SURE MYSELF--
--THAT ERIKO DIED!
I AM ERIKO
THAT'S A LIE!
HAVE YOU COME TO KILL ME?!
HAVE YOU RISEN FROM THE DEAD?!
C-CASA-BLANCA LILIES
C--
ERIKO!
NO...WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?!
WHOA...

I WILL RETURN MY COMPEN-SATION
..SINCE I HAVE ELIMINATED THE CLIENT HIMSELF..
...SOCIALLY, AT LEAST.
TAP
AHH...
Y-
Y-YOU!
...SINCE I GAVE HER THE POISON!
.....
.....!!

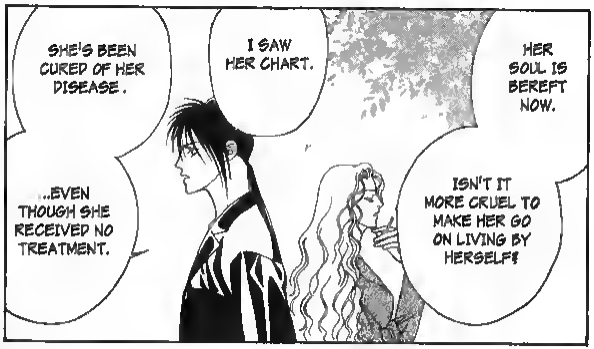
AH... UNH
AHH.
TAP

I...
...WOULD HAVE DIED.
...FOR HIM!!
I WOULD HAVE DIED
I DIDN'T WANT TO LIVE WITHOUT HIM!
THESE CASABLANCA LILIES
ARE FOR AL'S GRAVE.

I BELIEVE THAT WAS .
THANKS TO THE CURATIVE POWER OF FLOWERS
THE FLOWERS
...IN HER ROOM
...WERE BEAUTIFUL ENOUGH TO CONVINCE ME OF THAT.
Secret 1 ✦ End

IT IS A VERY POTENT ANES-THETIC
THAT MAKES THE USER TEMPO-RARILY APPEAR DEAD
I GAVE HIM MANDRAKE
IT'S THE POISON JULIET USED IN ROMEO AND JULIET
WHAT DID YOU DO?

WAS THAT THE RIGHT THING TO DO?


SHE'S BEEN CURED OF HER DISEASE .
...EVEN THOUGH SHE RECEIVED NO TREATMENT.
I SAW HER CHART.
HER SOUL IS BEREFT NOW.
ISN'T IT MORE CRUEL TO MAKE HER GO ON LIVING BY HERSELF?

Secret.2

THE PAY IS 10 MILLION YEN!
THIS IS A GOOD JOB THE CLIENT IS A CONSTRUCTION COMPANY
OR, AT LEAST, THAT'S THE FRONT THE REAL CLIENT IS A RIVAL CLAN
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I DON'T GIVE RECEIPTS
NO DUH.
KAITO
I HAVE NO CHOICE, DO I?

THERE'S A HUGE FLOWER ON YOUR HEAD, SUGARU-SAN
ISN'T IT CUTE?
THIS PLACE IS AS RUN-DOWN AS EVER
HE IS THE PREY THIS TIME
THIS IS SOICHIRO MISHIMA, THE HEAD OF THE MISHIMA-GUMI YAKUZA CLAN
WHAT IS IT?
Cute? It's more like a sorry case

HEY!
YOU.
..FOLLOW ME
I WON'T TAKE TOO MUCH OF YOUR TIME
I..
..I'M SORRY!
OH
DON'T TELL OUTSIDERS WHERE THE MASTER BEDROOM IS.
WHO IS THIS MAN?
!
..WOULD LOVE A CHANCE TO CUT THE BOSS' THROAT..
THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE OUT THERE..

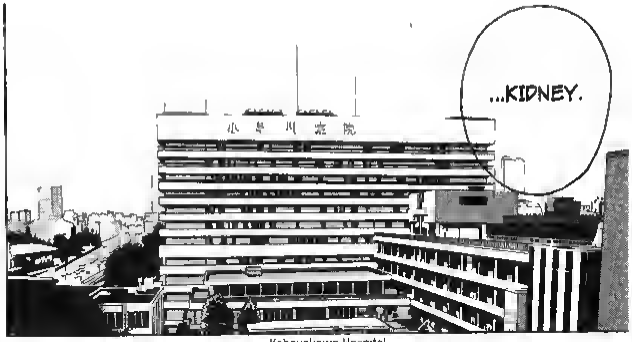
OH, YOU'RE THE GARDENER?
I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU
I'VE ALREADY ARRANGED A WAY FOR YOU TO GET INTO MISHIMA'S MANSION
THIS GARDEN'S HUGE
YOU MEAN THE BOSS' BEDROOM?
BY THE WAY, WHERE IS THE MASTER BEDROOM?
YOU'RE RIGHT I DON'T THINK IT'S POSSIBLE TO TEND THE WHOLE GARDEN IN JUST A DAY OR TWO
I'VE BEEN HERE A WHOLE YEAR, AND I STILL DON'T KNOW THE ENTIRE GROUNDS
WELL, IT'S RIGHT OVER TH--
OH! I SEE.
YES. THERE ARE DIFFERENT WAYS TO PRUNE THE TREE BASED ON WHERE THE BEDROOM IS
..SO THAT THE ROOM WON'T BE TOO SUNNY OR TOO SHADY.

YOU'RE LUCKY THAT A NICE PERSON FOUND YOU
IN THE WAY I SEE
WHAT'S GOING ON?
HEY, MUROI, HOW COME A ROOKIE LIKE YOU RATES A PERSONAL CHAT WITH THE BOSS?
NO... COULD IT BE..?!

WOULD YOU REPLANT IT SOMEWHERE MORE SUITABLE?
HUH?
THIS THING HERE...
...IT'S GROWING RIGHT IN THE PATH OF CARS
RIGHT SMACK IN THE MIDDLE
MUROI!
HEY, MUROI BOSS WANTS YOU!
HE WANTS TO TALK TO YOU
OKAY.
I TOLD YOU IT WOULDN'T TAKE LONG
UM..
..WELL ...
IS THAT ALL?

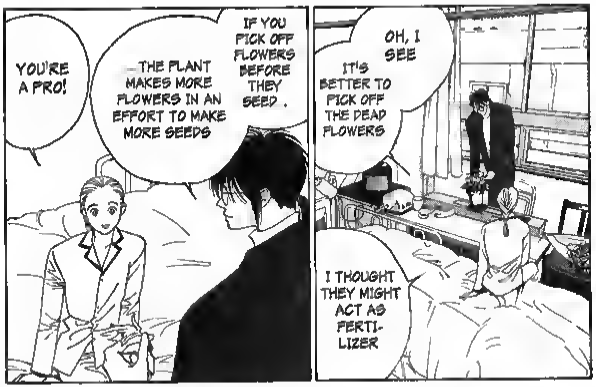
I'LL HAVE HER TRANSFERRED TO THE BEST HOSPITAL, WHERE THE BEST DOCTORS WILL CARE FOR HER.
I'M NOT JUST TALKING ABOUT MONEY.
.....
WHAT?!
I WILL PAY FOR HER TREAT-MENT.
OH, BUT YOU DO, MURO!
I HAVE NOTHING TO OFFER YOU, SIR.
OF COURSE, NOTHING'S FREE.
WELL...
...BUT...
WHAT?
I WANT SOMETHING FROM YOU
WHAT I WANT IS YOUR...

THANK YOU
HAVE A SEAT
YOU CALLED, SIR?
.....
THEY SAY SHE HAS SOME HEART PROBLEM THAT'S EXPENSIVE TO TREAT.
YOU...
HAVE A WOMAN, I HEAR.
I HAVE A PROPOSITION FOR YOU.
HE KNOWS THAT I'M SELLING THE CLAN'S DRUGS ON THE SIDE!
THE BOSS KNOWS ..!
PAYING HER MEDICAL BILLS MUST BE TOUGH FOR YOU.



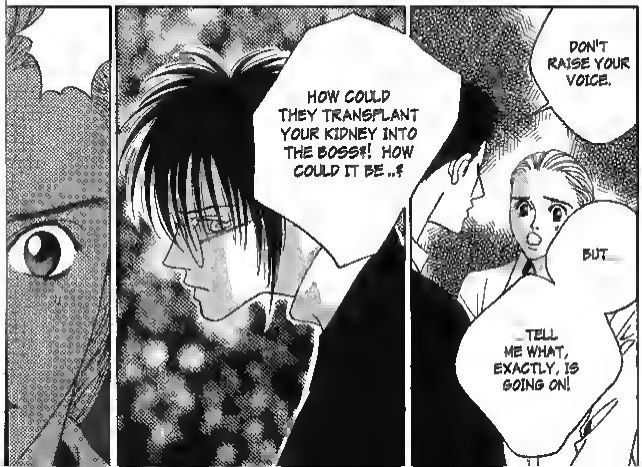
Kobayakawa Hospital

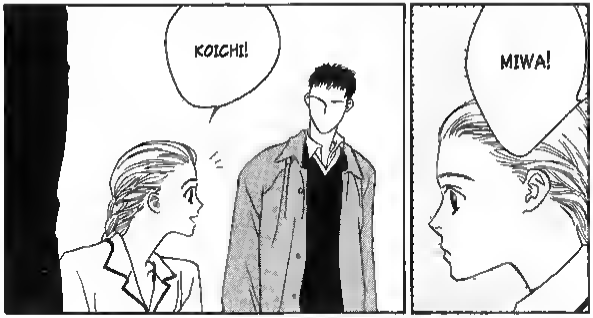
HE'S THE ONE WHO GAVE ME THE PLANT.
WHAT A GOOFBALL. PEOPLE DON'T GIVE POTTED PLANTS TO SICK PEOPLE, DO THEY?
NO. THEY SAY POTTED PLANTS GROW ROOTS AND PROLONG THE HOSPITAL STAY.
OH...
KOICHI IS MY BOYFRIEND.
BUT I KNOW WHAT HE'S TRYING TO TELL ME
CUT FLOWERS LAST A WEEK AT THE MOST.
BUT A POTTED PLANT CAN LAST MANY YEARS
SO EVERY TIME I SEE THE PLANT, I THINK...
...I HAVE TO LIVE ANOTHER YEAR... YOU SEE.

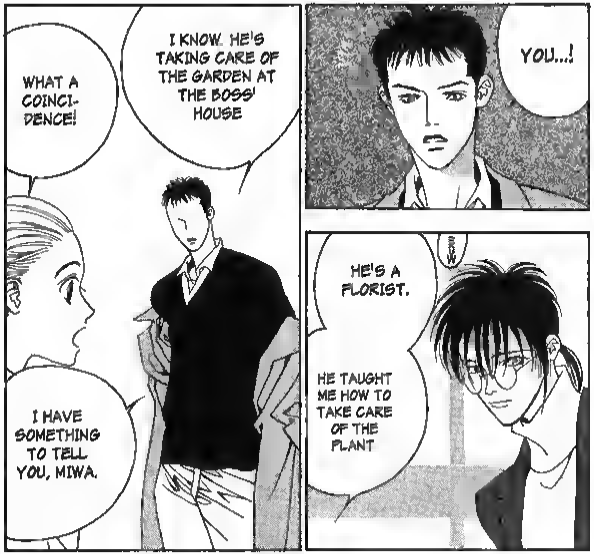

YOU'RE A PRO!
...THE PLANT MAKES MORE FLOWERS IN AN EFFORT TO MAKE MORE SEEDS
IF YOU PICK OFF FLOWERS BEFORE THEY SEED.
OH, I SEE
IT'S BETTER TO PICK OFF THE DEAD FLOWERS
I THOUGHT THEY MIGHT ACT AS FERTI-LIZER

I TOLD HIM THE OTHER HOSPITAL WAS FINE...
...BUT KOICHI WON'T LISTEN.
IT MUST BE HARD FOR YOU.
THEY SAY THIS HOSPITAL IS EXPENSIVE
NO. THIS IS...
IS THAT FOR DELIVERY?
MY BROTHER IS IN THE HOSPITAL HERE.

WHAT?!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, KOICHI?
THAT'S WHY SHE'S SO OPTIMISTIC.
YOU'RE GOING TO BE THE BOSS' DONOR?
SO THAT GUY IS HER BOY-FRIEND.
HE'S BEEN SUPPORTING HER.
GOOD-BYE.

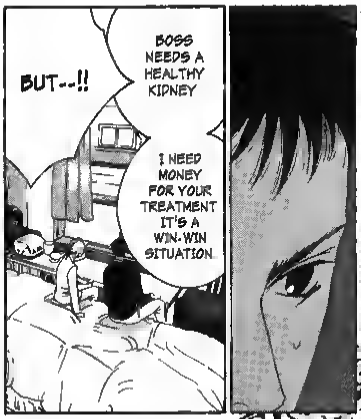

HOW COULD THEY TRANSPLANT YOUR KIDNEY INTO THE BOSS?! HOW COULD IT BE..?
DON'T RAISE YOUR VOICE.
BUT...
TELL ME WHAT, EXACTLY, IS GOING ON!


KOICHI!
MIWA!

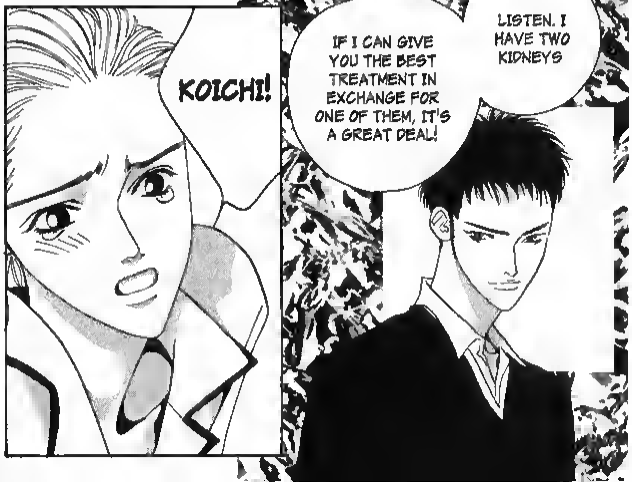

WHAT A COINCI-DENCE!
I KNOW. HE'S TAKING CARE OF THE GARDEN AT THE BOSS' HOUSE
I HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL YOU, MIWA.
YOU...!
HE'S A FLORIST.
HE TAUGHT ME HOW TO TAKE CARE OF THE PLANT

MIWA, I WANT TO MARRY YOU.
I CAN LEAVE THE YAKUZA BUSINESS.
I WANT TO PUT DOWN ROOTS WITH YOU.
BESIDES, THE BOSS PROMISED ME...
...AFTER THE SURGERY.

KOICHI!
I'M SO HAPPY.
OH, KOICHI...


BUT--!!
BOSS NEEDS A HEALTHY KIDNEY
I NEED MONEY FOR YOUR TREATMENT IT'S A WIN-WIN SITUATION.

Kobayakawa Hospital
COULD THAT BE
. THE REASON I WAS ABLE TO TRANSFER TO THIS HOSPITAL
WAS IT IN EXCHANGE FOR YOUR KIDNEY?!


KOICHI!
IF I CAN GIVE YOU THE BEST TREATMENT IN EXCHANGE FOR ONE OF THEM, IT'S A GREAT DEAL!
LISTEN. I HAVE TWO KIDNEYS

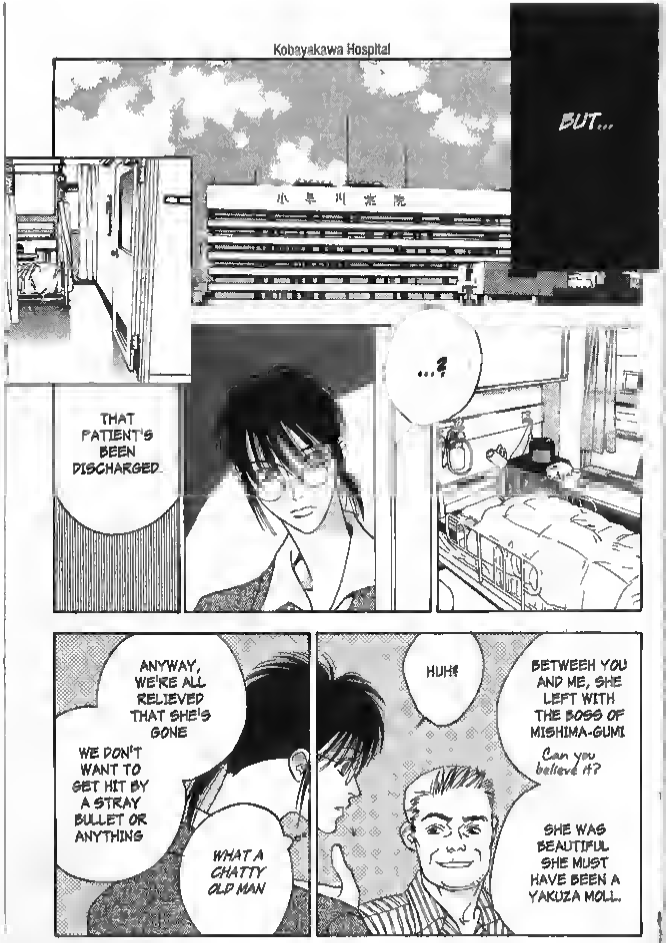
I'M DONE ALREADY.
WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO DO THE JOB?
MY BROTHER WILL NEVER ANSWER.
SURE, DONE WITH YOUR GARDENING!
WHAT ABOUT YOUR REAL JOB?!
SUGARU-SAN...

...WHAT'LL HAPPEN TO THOSE TWO?
IF I DO WHAT I WAS HIRED TO DO, AND KILL MISHIMA...
GOOD LORD.

I'M SUCH A FOOL.
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
WHAT SHOULD I DO BIG BROTHER?

YOU'RE CUNNING, SUGARU.
YOU'VE GOT ME ALL TIED UP.
...IS YOU...
...KAITO.
BUT THE ONE WHO PREYS ON OTHERS...
I'M NOT TYING YOU UP.
I'M JUST A SCAV-ENGER.
You're making me into the bad guy...

YOU CAN GIVE IT BACK.
DON'T MESS WITH ME! I'VE ALREADY TAKEN MY CUT.
I'M SORRY, BUT I'LL PASS ON THIS ONE.
WHAT?!
I DON'T MIND.
IT'LL HURT YOUR REPU-TATION IF YOU RENEGE ON A JOB.
Well, I've spent my share already.
IF YOU STOP GETTING JOBS...
...WHAT'LL HAPPEN TO YOUR BROTHER?
GRRR


Kobayakawa Hospital
小早川病院
BUT...
THAT PATIENT'S BEEN DISCHARGED.
...?
ANYWAY, WE'RE ALL RELIEVED THAT SHE'S GONE
WE DON'T WANT TO GET HIT BY A STRAY BULLET OR ANYTHING
WHAT A CHATTY OLD MAN
HUH?
BETWEEN YOU AND ME, SHE LEFT WITH THE BOSS OF MISHIMA-GUMI
Can you believe it?
SHE WAS BEAUTIFUL SHE MUST HAVE BEEN A YAKUZA MOLL.

THE BEAUTY OF FLOWERS DOESN'T EXIST MERELY FOR HUMAN ENJOYMENT.
ITS PURPOSE IS TO LURE INSECTS, WHICH SPREAD THE POLLEN, SO THE FLOWERS CAN CREATE SEEDS AND REPRODUCE.
IT IS A SOLID, SELF-CENTERED SYSTEM OF PRESERVATION.

WHERE IS KOICHI? I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM AT ALL SINCE I LEFT THE HOSPITAL.
NO!
COME ON. I HAVEN'T HAD ANY SINCE MY KIDNEY TROUBLE STARTED.
KOICHIRO HAS BEEN WITH YOU THIS WHOLE TIME
AND I BET YOU HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO DO IT SINCE YOU GOT SICK, RIGHT?
SO LET'S HAVE SOME FUN TOGETHER
WHAT?
HE'S HERE IN MY KIDNEY...
...AND IN YOUR...

. PROBABLY START A NICE FAMILY

THOSE TWO WILL...

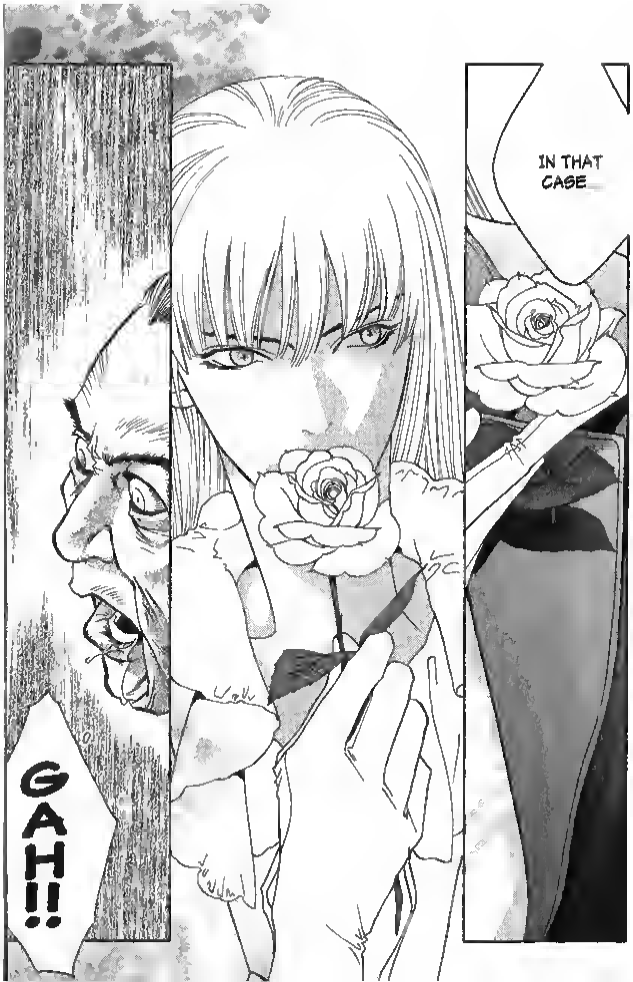
AAAAH! AAAAH!
AAAAH!

...HEART.
...EVEN THOUGH KOICHI IS A TRAITOR WHO TOOK OUR GOODS FOR HIMSELF.
I PROMISED HIM THAT I WOULD LET YOU TWO BE TOGETHER.
AND I KEPT MY PROMISE...
YOU'LL BE TOGETHER FOREVER.

NO
I'M GOING TO DIE
GIVE IT TO ME
IT'S OKAY
MIWA-SAN
SYAAA!
YES, BUT TODAY, I'M DELIVERING FLOWERS TO CELEBRATE THE BOSS LEAVING THE HOSPITAL.
YAAA!!
HELP!
SOME-BODY COME QUICKLY!
MIWA-SAN
.. MIWA-SAN IS
I THOUGHT YOU WERE DONE HERE
AREN'T YOU THE GARDENER?

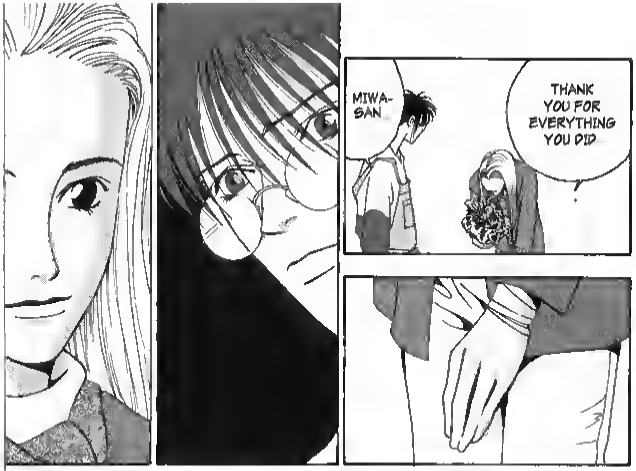
WHERE'S THE BROAD?
MIWA-SAN..
...WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I NEED TO DO A BODY SEARCH.
EVERYONE GETS SEARCHED, NO EXCEPTIONS
WAIT.
BOSS
SHE'S HERE, FINALLY
SHE'S CLEAN, BOSS
HAVE A GOOD EVENING.
ダラ…

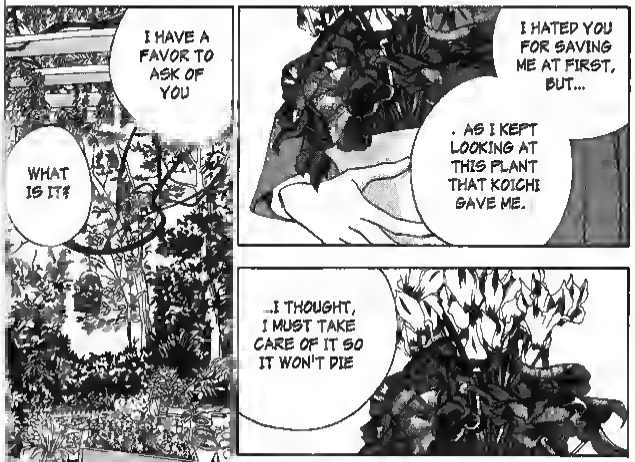
COME ON GET IN!
YOU'RE BADLY HURT, TOO.
MIWA-SAN!
WHY DID YOU--?
HE'S NOT HERE
NOT ANY-MORE.
WHERE IS KOICHI-SAN?
HE SHOULD BE WITH YOU.
MIWA-SAN?
WHY AM I STILL ALIVE, WHEN HE'S DEAD?
WHY...?


IN THAT CASE...
GAH!!

THERE WAS ANOTHER WOMAN HERE!
THAT STUPID BROAD WAS NO USE
DON'T BE COY I'VE WAITED TOO LONG!
WAIT, PLEASE
I'LL DO IT MYSELF
WITHOUT THAT, THERE IS NO REASON TO LIVE
A WOMAN WHO DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO PLEASE A MAN IS OF NO USE TO ME.
I DON'T REALLY CARE IF SHE DIES
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT SHE'S IN THE HOSPITAL FOR ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.

ズル
...DROP DEAD.


MIWA-SAN
THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING YOU DID


I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK OF YOU
WHAT IS IT?
I HATED YOU FOR SAVING ME AT FIRST, BUT...
. AS I KEPT LOOKING AT THIS PLANT THAT KOICHI GAVE ME.
...I THOUGHT, I MUST TAKE CARE OF IT SO IT WON'T DIE

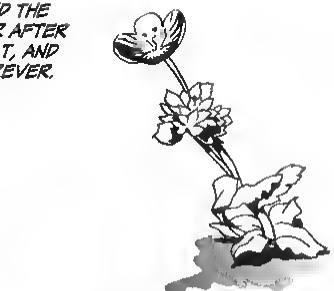
Gardening Center
YAGAMI

THIS IS... YOUR SHOP, ISN'T IT?

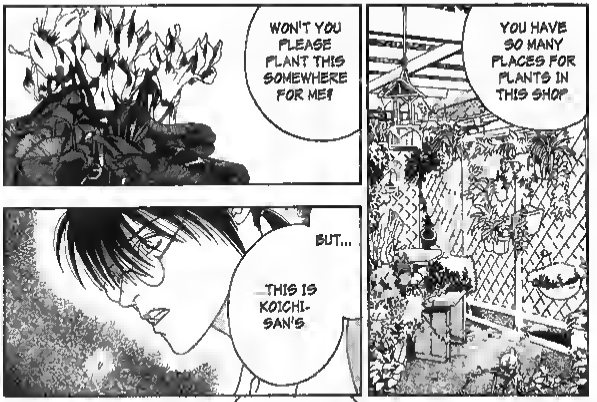
I FINALLY FOUND YOU.

NEXT YEAR...

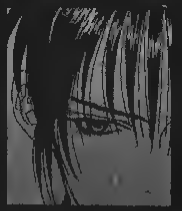
AND THE YEAR AFTER THAT, AND FOREVER.



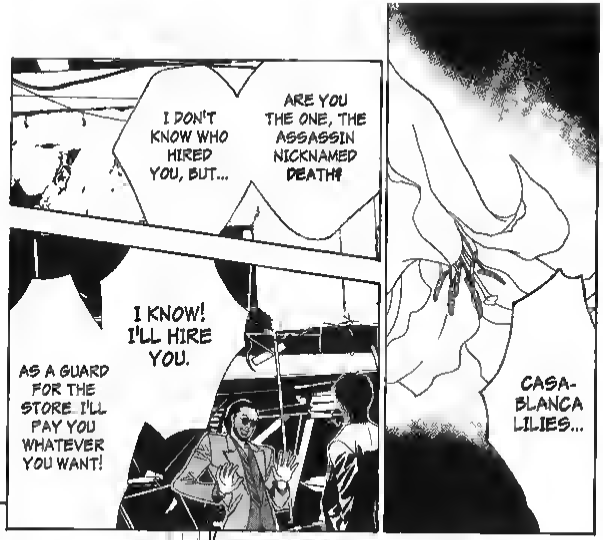
Secret 2 ✤ End



Secret.3
UFF
HUFF
UFF
UFF
HUFF HUFF
RUSTLE



Secret.3


I DON'T KNOW WHO HIRED YOU, BUT...
ARE YOU THE ONE, THE ASSASSIN NICKNAMED DEATH?
I KNOW! I'LL HIRE YOU.
AS A GUARD FOR THE STORE. I'LL PAY YOU WHATEVER YOU WANT!
CASA-BLANCA LILIES...

HUH?!
HERE, I'LL EVEN GIVE YOU A SIGNING BONUS
SOUNDS GOOD, DOESN'T IT?

DAMN IT!

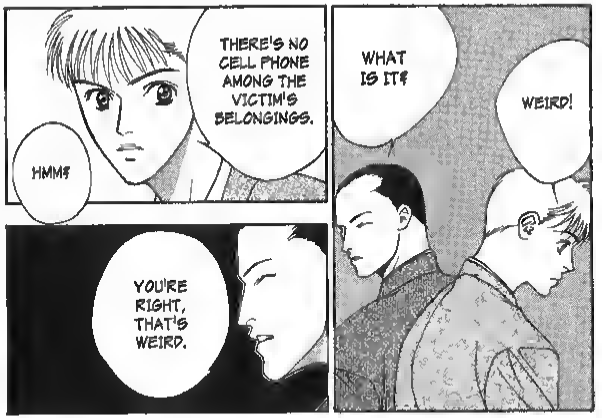
THAT'S NOT HOW IT WORKS.

MANY WERE FORCED INTO PROSTITUTION AND DIED AS ADDICTS DUE TO YOUR SO-CALLED "STORE."
YOU'RE FINALLY PAYING FOR YOUR SINS WITH YOUR OWN LIFE.

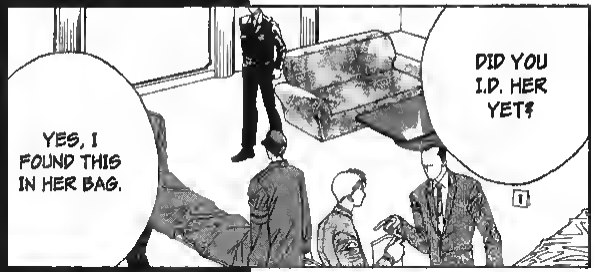
OH?
I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE, YAGAMI-SAN
I ALMOST KILLED A PLANT THAT MY HUSBAND HAS BEEN NURSING.
BECAUSE I CAN'T STAND BUGS
HOW FRIGHT-ENING!
HOTEL WORLD
OH, DEAR.
A YOUNG WOMAN WAS KILLED AT A HOTEL

YAGAMI-SAN!
WOULD YOU LIKE SOME TEA?
THANK YOU.
YOU'RE VERY KIND.

WHAT'S THIS?
WHAT?
HMM
HUH? OH
THAT'S FUNNY
SOME-THING...
ISN'T QUITE RIGHT
MAYBE IT FELL OUT OF THE VASE


THERE'S NO CELL PHONE AMONG THE VICTIM'S BELONGINGS.
HMM?
WHAT IS IT?
WEIRD!
YOU'RE RIGHT, THAT'S WEIRD.

SKRUTCH

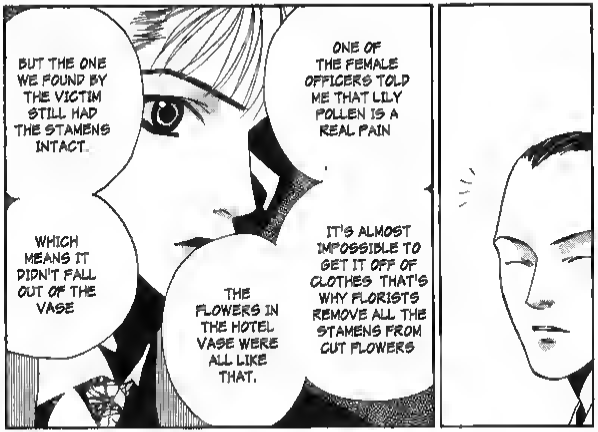

DID YOU I.D. HER YET?
YES, I FOUND THIS IN HER BAG.

A STUDENT I.D. SHE'S A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT.
YES AND THERE WAS ABOUT 200,000 YEN IN HER WALLET.
THESE KIDS...!
SUGAR DADDY OR NOT, SHE WAS ALONE IN A ROOM WITH A STRANGER.

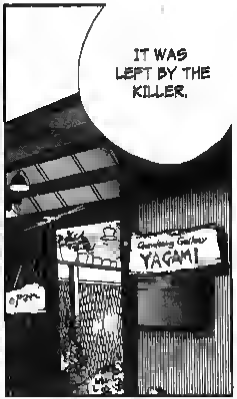
IT MUST HAVE BEEN A "SUGAR DADDY" THING
FIND HER CELL PHONE CHECK OUT EVERY NUMBER ON IT
DON'T THEY UNDERSTAND THE DANGER?

TWITTER TWEE
YAAAAH!!

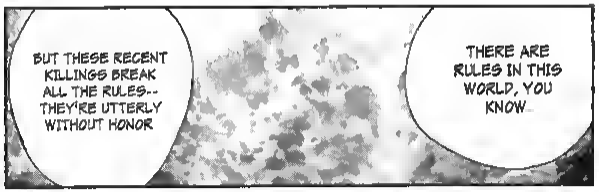
I WANTED SOME NEW CLOTHES, BUT...
MAYBE IT WAS A PRANK SHIT
WHERE'S THE GUY WHO CALLED ME?
WHAT'S THE DEAL?
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?
SKRETCH
OH WELL I'LL JUST FIND ANOTHER CUSTOMER
!!

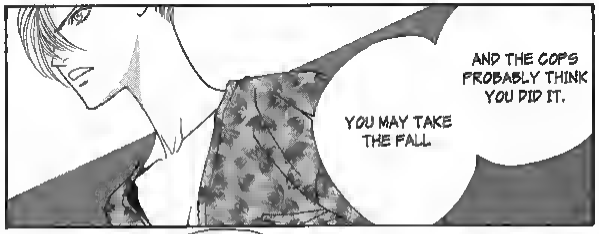

BUT THE ONE WE FOUND BY THE VICTIM STILL HAD THE STAMENS INTACT.
ONE OF THE FEMALE OFFICERS TOLD ME THAT LILY POLLEN IS A REAL PAIN
WHICH MEANS IT DIDN'T FALL OUT OF THE VASE
THE FLOWERS IN THE HOTEL VASE WERE ALL LIKE THAT.
IT'S ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO GET IT OFF OF CLOTHES THAT'S WHY FLORISTS REMOVE ALL THE STAMENS FROM CUT FLOWERS

WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?


IT WAS LEFT BY THE KILLER.
YAGAMI
open

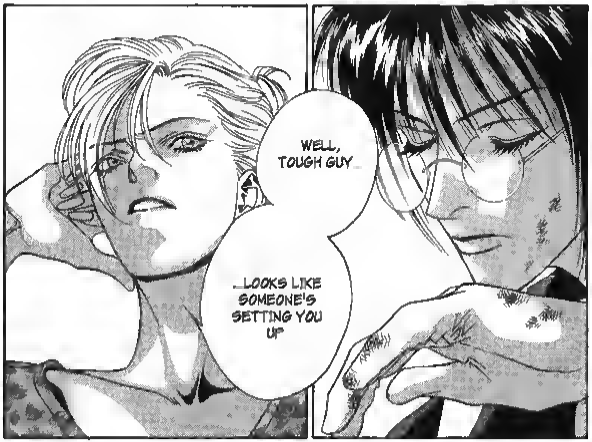
IT'S THE SAME KIND WE FOUND AT THE HOTEL.
IT MUST BE A COINCIDENCE. THE ONE AT THE HOTEL WAS FROM THE VASE
NO, IT DIDN'T FALL OUT OF THE VASE.
WHAT?
IT'S THE SAME GUY
SEE THE FLOWERS?


BUT THESE RECENT KILLINGS BREAK ALL THE RULES-- THEY'RE UTTERLY WITHOUT HONOR
THERE ARE RULES IN THIS WORLD, YOU KNOW...


AND THE COPS PROBABLY THINK YOU DID IT.
YOU MAY TAKE THE FALL.

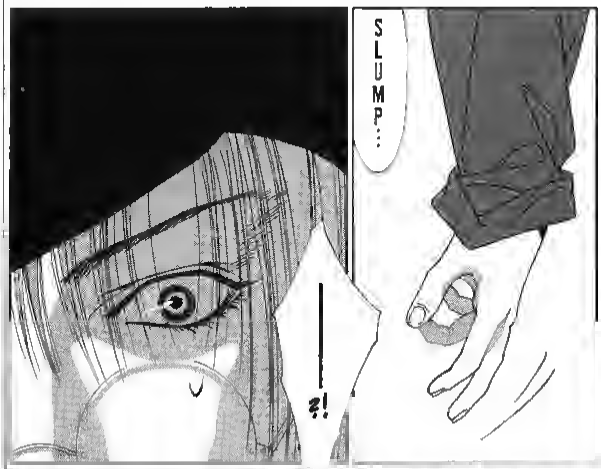
YOU SAID IT.
THE BUTCHER MAY BECOME THE BUTCHERED
HOW PER-TURBING

I DON'T USE KNIVES
I KNOW THAT.
THERE'S A COPYCAT OUT THERE


WELL, TOUGH GUY...
...LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE'S SETTING YOU UP

!
IT WAS AFTER THE JOB I DID HERE...
CRACK
WAS I BEING WATCHED BY SOMEONE?

THE BUTCHERED... HMM...
I THINK IT WAS...

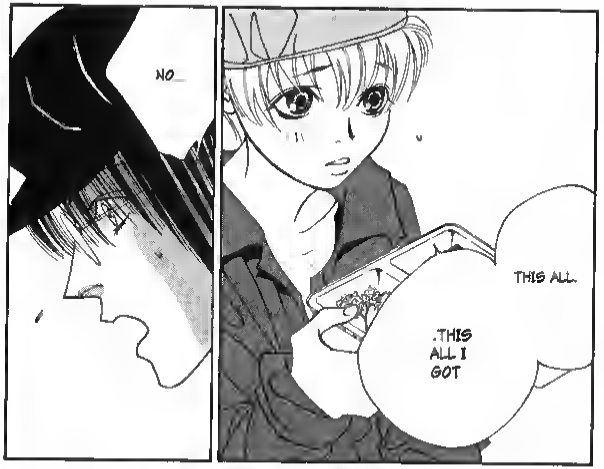

SLUMP...
?!

WHAT--?

IS IT YOU?!

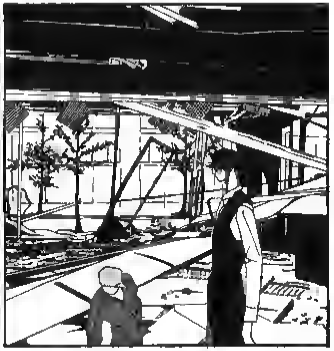
COUGH
?
WHO IS THIS KID?
AH...
...AH..
I...
...I'M..

A CHILD?!
I'M SORRY.
ARE YOU OKAY?
COUGH COUGH
COUGH
WHOA!
COUGH

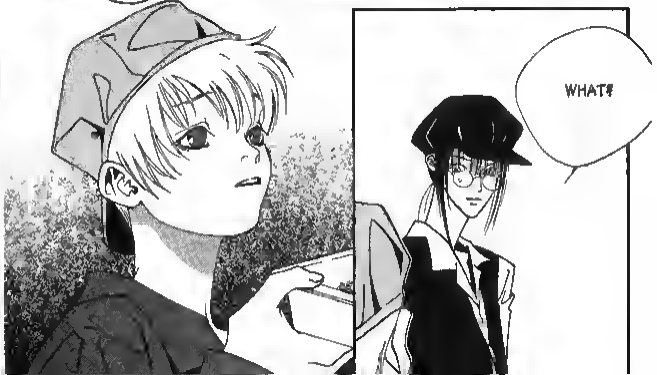

NO...
THIS ALL..
.THIS ALL I GOT

N-NO..?
I DIDN'T COME FOR YOUR FOOD.

DOES HE LIVE HERE ALONE?



NN.
...NN...

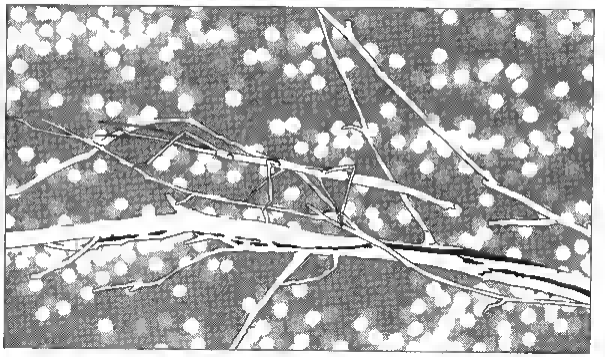

WHAT?

K--
KAI?
Kai? Kai?
YEP.
AND I'M NOT SO NICE.
I'M...
...I'M KAITO.
I'M NOT AN OLD MAN.

G--
GOOD.
HUH?
N--
NICE
YOU D-DON'T HIT.
Y--
YOU'RE A NICE OLD MAN

"NO, KAITO. IT'S AN INSECT CALLED A WALKING STICK. IT CONCEALS ITSELF AS A BRANCH."

"LOOK, BIG BROTHER! THE BRANCH IS MOVING!!"

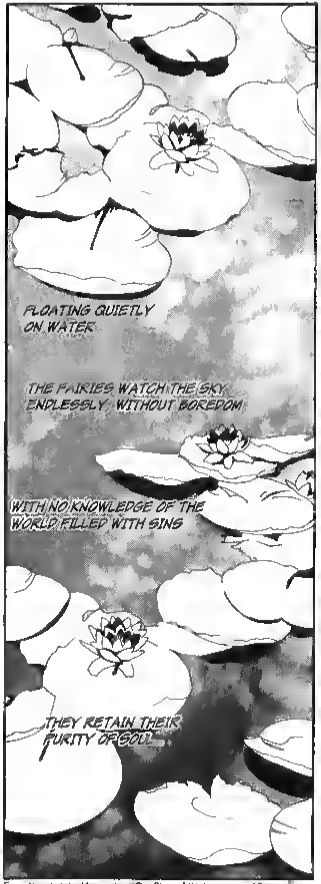


"IT'S CALLED MIMESIS, A DISGUISE."

KAI!

MY HANDS ARE STAINED WITH BLOOD.

N--
NAME .?
WHAT DO PEOPLE CALL YOU?
YOU...
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?


FLOATING QUIETLY ON WATER
THE FAIRIES WATCH THE SKY ENDLESSLY WITHOUT BOREDOM
WITH NO KNOWLEDGE OF THE WORLD FILLED WITH SINS
THEY RETAIN THEIR PURITY OF SOUL

From *Hanakotoba Monogatari* "The Story of the Language of Flowers" (Nagaoka Shoten Publishing)

*Lotus

THOSE ARE SWEET MEMORIES...

IN THE OLD DAYS...

I USED TO WALK WITH MY BROTHER, HOLDING HIS HAND LIKE THIS.

THOSE DAYS BEFORE I KNEW ANYTHING ABOUT SIN

WAIT HERE, OKAY?
SLP
WHO'S THAT KID?
HE'S FILTHY.
HE HAS A NICE FACE.

I WANT YOU TO DELIVER SOME CASA-BLANCAS
SUGARU-SAN...

THEN WHAT WILL HE DO?
AND HE'LL BE IN DANGER WHILE YOU'RE ALIVE, TOO
LET'S TALK ABOUT THE JOB.
.....
YOU NEVER KNOW-- SOMEDAY IT'LL BE YOUR TURN TO GET HIT!
SURE. BUT HE'S GOING TO AN ORPHANAGE SOON, RIGHT?

HUH?
OH, THE POOR CHILD
SO ?
HE'S SO YOUNG
AND HE WAS LIVING ALL BY HIMSELF IN AN ABANDONED BUILDING
DO I HAVE TO TAKE HIM TO AN ORPHANAGE?
IF YOU'RE GOING TO PUT HIM IN AN ORPHANAGE, YOU'D BETTER NOT GET TOO ATTACHED TO HIM.
YOU REMEMBER WHAT YOU DO FOR A LIVING, RIGHT?
OF COURSE

.....
CASABLANCA LILIES ARE SENT TO THE DEAD, THEY SAY
I-I'LL CATCH THE KILLER MYSELF, THEN!
DAMN IT
DAMN IT... SOMEONE IS PLAYING JOKES WITH PEOPLE'S LIVES!
WHY ARE YOU GETTING SO HOT ABOUT IT, KODA?

WHAT?!
THEY'RE CALLING OFF THE INVESTIGATION ALL RIGHT, KODA?
ARE YOU OKAY WITH IT, KAMIYA-SAN?
HUH?
WHO KNOWS?
IT'S ORDERS
BUT WHY?

HITS BY WHOM?
IF I EAT WITHOUT PERMISSION
I GET HIT.
WAIT
KAI SAID
YOU SAID
.....
WHAT KIND OF LIFE HE WAS BEING FORCED TO LIVE, AND BY WHOM?
I WONDER..

YOU HAVEN'T EATEN.
DON'T YOU LIKE IT?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE'S BEEN THROUGH, SINCE HE DOESN'T SAY MUCH, BUT...
O..
H-HOT!
OH..

BATH..?
MAYBE YOU SHOULD TAKE A BATH BEFORE HAVING DINNER
DON'T WORRY, RENGE
YOU CAN DO AS YOU LIKE HERE
YOU'LL FEEL MUCH BETTER AFTER-WARD.

Heh!
HOW CUTE...
.....
FGGH!
THE SAME WAY YOU PROTECTED ME, MY BROTHER.
AM I BEING SELFISH TO WANT TO PROTECT RENGE?

WHAT KIND OF LIFE HAS THIS SMALL BODY ENDURED...?
COUGH
SLOW DOWN, RENGE.
NOBODY'S GOING TO TAKE IT AWAY FROM YOU AND THERE'S PLENTY MORE.

ゴオオオ

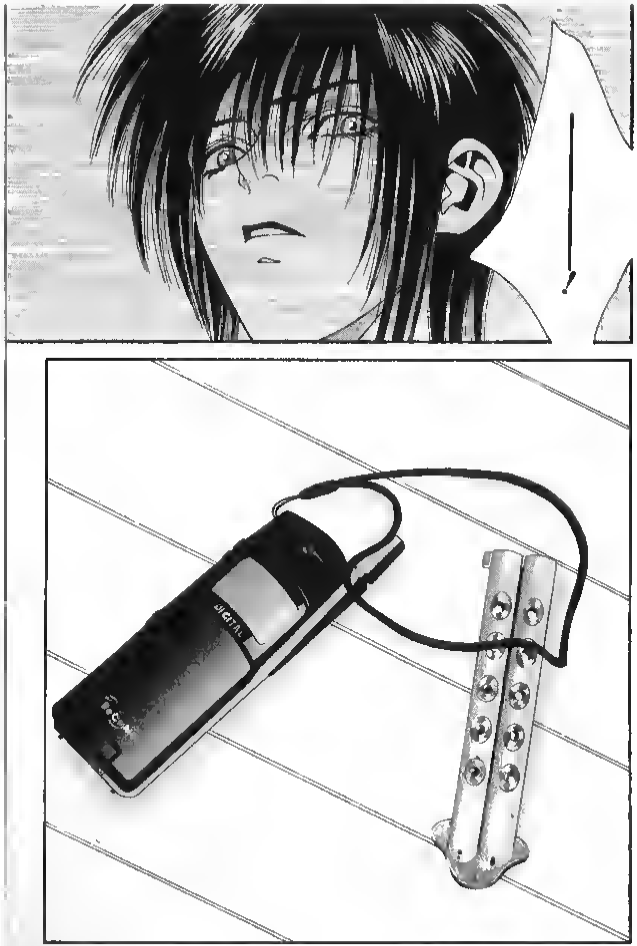
KAITO!
BIG BROTHER!!
KRAK
CRASH

WHEW
ZZZZ
ZZZ

.....
SOMEDAY IT'LL BE YOUR TURN TO GET HIT!

BROTHER!!
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
.....

RENGE'S CLOTHES NEED TO BE WASHED.
WELL, I'D BETTER DO THE LAUNDRY.
OOPS!
CLATTER



ARE YOU THE ONE?!

THERE'S A COPYCAT OUT THERE
YOU WILL PAY WITH YOUR LIFE.
WAS I BEING WATCHED?
IT WAS AFTER THAT JOB.

IT CAN'T BE.
NO...
RENGE COULDN'T HAVE...
HE MUST HAVE FOUND IT SOMEWHERE.
"NO, KAITO."

MAYBE THIS WAS USED TO STAB AN ANIMAL.
IT'S FAT.
GREASE...
OR..
I WAS BEING WATCHED ?
SOMEONE'S COPYING YOU.
.....

BIG BROTHER...

"IT'S CALLED MIMESIS, A DISGUISE."
"DON'T BE FOOLED BY APPEARANCES, KAITO."

HAH
HUFF
WHSSH
SSHH...
!

YEAH, A GAME.
IN THE NOT-SO-DISTANT FUTURE...
GAME?
LET'S PLAY A GAME, RENGE.
...A VERDICT WILL BE HANDED DOWN.
I'LL GO FIRST.
OKAY?
WE'LL TAKE TURNS EATING ONE. AND WHOEVER GETS THE CORIARIA BERRY IS THE LOSER
IT'S A POISONOUS BERRY THAT COULD KILL YOU IF YOU EAT IT.
THESE ARE WILD GRAPES BUT AMONG THEM IS ONE SINGLE BERRY OF CORIARIA JAPONICA

I'M SORRY
RENGE
..I WOULDN'T HESITATE FOR EVEN A SECOND
I'M FINE
I WON'T DIE
...MAYBE YOU WERE THE ONE...
...WHO WOULD CARRY OUT JUDGMENT.
BUT...
I THOUGHT
?

ULP
YOU'RE NEXT, RENGE
KAI...
...ARE YOU GOING TO DIE?
...THESE ARE ALL WILD GRAPES.
IF THE INNOCENT LITTLE BOY IS RENGE'S DISGUISE...
DID I WIN OR LOSE?
AND YOU? KAI?
UMM.
...IT'S YUMMY.
I WIN.
THE TRUTH IS...

DARN
THE BRAT'S TOO FAST
OH!
HE TOOK OFF
DON'T WORRY. I WON'T TAKE YOU ANYWHERE
I'LL LET YOU GO, IF YOU PROMISE TO KEEP THESE FOR ME
NO
NO
WAAH!
OWW!
WAAH!
WHUMP!
WHERE?
A...
...A MAN...
Where?
SOME-ONE
...GAVE ME
N--?
WHO?
RENGE, I FOUND THESE IN YOUR JACKET POCKET
WHERE DID YOU GET THEM?
WOULD YOU PLEASE DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS KID!
THIS VAGABOND KEEPS HANGING AROUND MY STORE, AND HE'S SCARING THE CUSTOMERS AWAY
HE BELONGS IN AN INSTI-TUTION!
A POLICE STATION?
REALLY?
WAS IT HERE?

MAYBE HE'S NOT HERE.
N--
HMMM.
OH.
OKAY, RENGE DO YOU SEE HIM IN HERE?
I HAVE THE WHOLE POLICE FORCE IN A DATABASE.
NOBUKAZU KAMIYA, A DETECTIVE
WHY WOULD A DETECTIVE GIVE A KNIFE TO RENGE?
THIS MAN!

OKAY, LET'S GO HOME.
UH-HUH.
IF A COP IS INVOLVED, WE SHOULDN'T BE SEEN HERE
IF YOU SAW HIM AGAIN, WOULD YOU RECOGNIZE HIM?
DO DO YOU REMEMBER THE MAN'S FACE?
AND WHO'S THAT GUY?
WHAT ARE THEY DOING HERE?
HI, KODA
ARE WE STILL ON FOR TONIGHT...
—AT YOUR PLACE?
OF COURSE, FOR DINNER
KAMIYA-SAH...
ARE YOU DAY-DREAMING?
THAT BRAT...

ONLY MY CLIENTS AND THE POLICE KNOW.
NOT MANY PEOPLE KNOW THAT I LEAVE CASABLANCA LILIES FOR MY VICTIMS
THANKS FOR INVITING ME OVER, KAMIYA-SAN
SHOULD I GO FISHING?

TH--
THIS IS YARROW
HE MUST HAVE FIGURED THAT RENGE WOULDN'T REMEMBER HIS FACE, AND THAT EVEN IF RENGE DID, NO ONE WOULD LISTEN TO HIM.
DEFINITELY.
NOT GIVE... MORE LIKE GOT RID OF, MAYBE. ¶
THIS ONE. IS PULSA-TILLA
SNAP-DRAGON
BUT FOR SOME REASON, HE IS SLOW WITH WORDS.
ERA--
ERANTHIS FINNA-TIFIDA
YOU'RE DOING VERY WELL, RENGE.
RENGE REMEMBERS EVERYTHING THAT I TELL HIM ONCE.
DON'T TOUCH THE PULSATILLA--
IT'S POISON-OUS
OKAY.

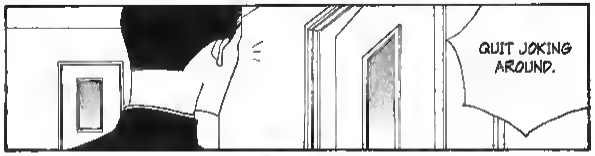
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU HAVE NOTHING TO PROTECT.
HUH?
NEVER MIND.
...HOW VICTIMS CAN SHARE THE BLAME FOR A CRIME.
I...I DON'T UNDER-STAND...
HUH?
PRUNING IS REQUIRED.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, MA'AM
OH DEAR YOU HAVEN'T EVEN OFFERED TEA!
I'M SORRY, KODA-SAN
HELLO NICE TO MEET YOU
HONEY, I'M HOME
SORRY I'M LATE! I'LL GET STARTED ON DINNER.
.....
I'D LIKE TO START A FAMILY, TOO.
YES.
SHE'S DUE THIS SUMMER, RIGHT?
THIS IS YOUR FIRST BABY..YOU MUST BE NERVOUS

ONE MUST PRUNE UNWANTED BRANCHES TO SHAPE THE TREE.
IT'S CALLED EDAUCHI.
OH YOU'RE CUTTING IT OFF?
SNIP
I MEAN, YOU DO BONSAI?
KAMIYA-SAN, YOU'RE A GARDENER?
HOW QUAINT.
GH!
I KIND OF LIKE THINGS THE WAY THEY GROW NATURALLY.
OOPS I'M SORRY
IT MUST BE A LOT OF WORK
EDAUCHI... I SEE.
YOU HAVE TO TRAIN THE BRAN-CHES WITH WIRES TOO, RIGHT?
THOSE GIRLS WHO GOT STABBED... WHAT THEY WERE DOING AMOUNTS TO PROSTITUTION.
SHOULDN'T THE VICTIM BEAR SOME RESPON-SIBILITY?
HUH? BLAMING THE VICTIM?
HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT THE VICTIM'S CULPABILITY?
WELL, KODA...
YES?

ALL RIGHT. I'LL DEAL WITH HIM.
IT'S MY LUCKY DAY!
THANKS, DUDE.
YOU CAN GO
HUH?

WHY, YOU...!

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
YOUR AGE?
NO IDEA.
MAYBE THREE.


QUIT JOKING AROUND.

.....!
WHAT'S UP?
HE WAS LYING IN THE STREET, DRUNK
WE QUES. TIONED HIM, HE RESISTED, WE BROUGHT HIM IN

?!
WHY ARE YOU FOLLOWING ME?
DID THEY FIND OUT?
WHAT CAN I DO?
HEY..
..IF YOU LET ME GO.
.. I'LL LET YOU DO IT FOR FREE
I USUALLY CHARGE 50,000 YEN, BUT...
...WHAT DO YOU SAY?
WHSSH
!
TOK
TAK
TAK
TOK
DUDE..
DANG...I LOST HIM.

IT'S MY FIRST TIME WITH A MAN.
I FIGURED.
YOU SEEM TO KNOW WHAT YOU DO YOU WANT DO THIS A LOT?
YOU'RE WEARING A WEDDING RING.
HAPPILY MARRIED, RIGHT?
SHOULD A COP REALLY BE DOING THIS SORT OF THING?
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SUGGESTED THIS!
YOU'RE TALKING TOO DAMN MUCH!

HOTEL WORLD
Vacancy
LET'S SEE...
.....
DON'T THEY HAVE HIDDEN CAMERAS AND STUFF IN THESE PLACES?
THERE ARE REGULAR INSPECTIONS BY THE FIRE DEPARTMENT-- THEY'D FIND ANY CAMERAS.
PEOPLE THINK SO, BUT IT'S PRACTICALLY IMPOSSIBLE.
HMM...
THEN I'LL GIVE YOU EXTRA SPECIAL TREATMENT.

I'LL CALL THE COPS IF YOU HURT ME
IT WAS THE SAME BACK THEN.
WHAT?
YOU'RE A DETECTIVE!
HEY, DON'T TAKE MY...
...GIVE IT BACK!
NO WAY!
JUST TAKE YOUR CLOTHES OFF!
NO NEED TO GET ANGRY, DUDE.
.....
ARE YOU INTO KINKY STUFF?
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?
OUCH!
50,000 YEN, HUH?
DO YOU KNOW HOW HARD WE HAVE TO WORK TO MAKE THAT KIND OF MONEY?
I'LL HAVE TO CHARGE FOR THAT!

YOU WOULDN'T WANT THAT TO HAPPEN, WOULD YOU, MR. DETECTIVE?
I DON'T CARE IF THE POLICE COME. I'LL TELL THEM YOU FORCED YOURSELF ON ME.
IF YOU TRY TO HURT ME, I'LL STAB YOU
IT'LL BE SELF-DEFENSE
OUCH!
YOU...!
MY WIFE IS PREGNANT
YOU MUST UNDERSTAND.
FOR A MAN, AGGRESSION IS INTERTWINED WITH THE SEX DRIVE.
IN THIS LINE OF BUSINESS, SOMETIMES YOU CAN'T CONTROL YOUR SEX DRIVE.

YOU DON'T WANT WORD TO GET OUT, DO YOU?
HEY...
...QUIT JOKING AROUND
HMM...
...A DETEC-TIVE FOR A SUGAR DADDY...
YOU THINK YOU CAN BLACKMAIL ME?
EEYAA!
HEY, WHAT'RE YOU...
DON'T WORRY, I WON'T TELL A SOUL.
HOW ABOUT A LITTLE MORE SPENDING MONEY, BY THE WAY?
WHA--?!

?!
BUT...
...ONE THING I DON'T UNDER-STAND IS...
...THE ONE IN THE PARK.
THERE'S AN UNSUS-PECTING JUNIOR DETECTIVE...
WHO ATE UP THE STORY JUST LIKE I WANTED HIM TO.
DIE!!
YES, YOU'RE DEAD!
YOU'RE GOING TO DIE SOON ANYWAY!
HMM...YOU DON'T CARE ABOUT ANY OF THIS, DO YOU?

THAT'S WHY I PAY MONEY TO SATISFY MY NEEDS OUTSIDE THE HOUSE
WHY SHOULD I RUIN MY LIFE FOR DOING A SIMPLE THING LIKE THAT?
AND I WANT TO TAKE CARE OF THEM.
WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A BABY.
IF I'M PAYING FOR IT, IT'S NOT AN AFFAIR
I LOVE MY WIFE.
AND SO...
...YOU KILLED HER?
THAT'S RIGHT.
SHE WAS A STUPID, USELESS GIRL
SHE HAD NOTHING TO CONTRI-BUTE
JUST BEFORE THAT, WE'D FOUND A CASABLANCA LILY AT A MURDER SCENE.
I MADE IT LOOK LIKE ONE OF THOSE KILLINGS

WAAAH!
AAAAH!
..AAAH..
IT'S BURNING HOT...!
..IT'S HOT!
GRAB
WAAAH!!
IT BUUURRNS...!
UGGHHH!

I WILL CHOOSE...
...WHERE I DIE!
AGKKK!!

THIS IS...
...THE JUDGMENT YOU RECEIVE

SPIRIT
.....
PULSA-TILLA...
THE PLANT SAP CONTAINS PROTOANE-MONIN...
...WHICH CAUSES A STRONG BURNING SENSATION AND PAIN WHEN APPLIED TO THE SKIN

AND NEXT TIME YOU HAD A HAT.
...JUST LIKE MINE.
?
THE FIRST TIME, YOU MEAN ?
NEXT TIME...?
YOU...
...THE FIRST TIME.
...WERE FIGHTING A BAD GUY...
IT'S OKAY...
...TO BEAT BAD GUYS, RIGHT?

HUH?
GLASSES.
WHEN I FIRST SAW YOU, NO GLASSES
NOPE
WE MET HERE, DIDN'T WE, RENGE?
UH-HUH

DON'T COME NEAR ME!
HEY ! WHAT'S A BRAT DOING WITH A KNIFE?
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?
BONK
GO AWAY, YOU WEIRDO!
STUPID BRAT.
I. I..
UHM...
I. I...
DIDN'T DO.
NOTHING WRONG
GO AWAY!!
.....!

M--
MOMMY BEAT ME.
HIT ME LOTS AND LOTS...
. SO I RAN AWAY.
RENGE.
WITH THE KNIFE THE MAN SAVE ME
...I COULD BEAT HER.
WON'T GET BEAT UP ANY MORE
SO I'M HAPPY I GOT SOMETHING GOOD.

HE SAW ME, AND...
RENGE DID THE SAME THING AS I DID.
SO...
RENGE WAS HERE THEN...
OH, GOD!
KAI...
KAI...
...BEATS BAD GUYS.
G...
GOOD GUY.
.GOOD

ONE THING I DON'T GET...
BUT...
...IS THE ONE IN THE PARK

YOU CAN'T BE LIKE ME, RENGE
NO...
I AM
...AFRAID
AFRAID OF THE DAY OF JUDGMENT...
...THE DAY THAT I MUST FACE ALONE.
KAI...?
RENGE...
I...
...WANT TO BE LIKE KAI.

PLEASE...
STAY WITH ME.
...THE ONE I WANT TO PROTECT. HE'S LIKE ME. BEFORE I BECAME SOILED
AS LONG AS I LIVE.
I WILL PROTECT YOU
OKAY

PROMISE ME SOMETHING, RENGE
I WILL BEAT ALL THE BAD GUYS
..SO
I WILL PROTECT YOU, FOREVER
ALWAYS
RENGE IS...
DON'T EVER
. SOIL YOUR LITTLE HANDS WITH BLOOD.. EVER AGAIN

Postscript

I don't have much to say about the work I've finished, other than that it's fun to write "X -kan." And I like to draw women, especially coquettish ones like Fujiko Mine-chan and Cuty Honey-chan. Since Sugaru-san is the only reappearing female character, I have a good time designing her clothes. I'm pleased that Sugaru-san is well liked by the female readers. If you have any ideas or design drawings for Sugaru-san's clothes, please send them to me with your letters.

Secret 3 ✱ End

IN THE NEXT VOLUME OF

When you're an assassin,
the competition is killer!
While Kaito sets his
sights on the leader of a cult,
someone else targets Kai's
comatose brother!

Could Kai survive the murder of the
man who saved his life?

TOKYOPOP®

X-Kai-™

Manga
Action/Drama
US $9.99
CAN $12.99
UK £6.99

THE MANGA REVOLUTION • LEADING THE MANGA REVOLUTION • LEADING
漫画革命

By day, Kaito is a florist, but at night, he is a ruthless assassin who is brought orders to kill by a mysterious woman. But Kaito is an assassin with a conscience--and his life is made difficult when he has to take care of his sick brother...

Part hardboiled romance of solitude, part meditation on the meaning of life and death, the long-awaited manga series is filled with love, blood, murder, and plenty of white lilies.

ISBN 1598163736
9 781598 163735
50999
EAN
www.TOKYOPOP.com

OT
OLDER TEEN
AGE 16+

DRAMA